

Severe Weather /Flooding Information
Congressman Steven Palazzo

As Mississippi is once again hit by strong weather patterns it is important to make sure your insurance, and personal matters regarding property are up to date.

- Prepare a home inventory. A home inventory can be invaluable when deciding how much insurance your life situation requires or when you have to file a claim.
- Make copies of important papers including your policy number and agent's contact information to take with you if you have to evacuate.
- Outside the home- survey the area around your home to identify and remove objects like yard debris, lawn furniture, etc. that can compound damage to your home.
- Clear debris from gutters and downspouts.
- Anchor any fuel tanks.
- Raise your electrical components (switches, sockets, circuit breakers, and wiring) at least 12 inches above your home's projected flood elevation.
- Place the furnace, water heater, washer, and dryer on cement blocks at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation.
- Move furniture, valuables, and important documents to a safe place.
- If you need to evacuate your home, turn off all utilities and disconnect appliances to reduce the chance of additional damage and electrical shock when utilities are restored.

Other useful websites that provide preparedness information:

<http://www.msema.org/be-prepared/floods/> -MEMA Flood prep list

<http://www.msema.org/local-ema/> - Local Emergency Management Contacts by County

List of local channels and news sources for weather updates:

<http://www.wlox.com/weather>

<https://www.facebook.com/WLOXWeather/?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/WesWilliamsII>

<https://twitter.com/AndrewWilsonWX>

<https://twitter.com/JBrannanWLOX>

<http://www.gulflive.com/>

<http://www.sunherald.com/news/weather/>

<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/l/Biloxi+MS+USMS0033:1:US>